

MAGI # 0437902404
0437902404Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C. 20243

B-3790

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION — PART 1
(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received. Please type or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY:

Address of property Street 816 Park Avenue
City Baltimore County _____ State Maryland Zip Code 21202
Name of historic district in which property is located Baltimore City Historic District, 1964

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(use reverse side if necessary)

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

Date of construction (if known) c. 1845 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved ☐ Date of alterations (if known) mid 20th cent.

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

ne Sommers and Sommers, c/o Milton Sommers
Street 824 Park Avenue
City Baltimore State Maryland Zip Code 21202
Telephone Number (during day) Area Code (301) 728-1400

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge correct and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc. Date _____
Prepared by: 14 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60.7).The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60.7) and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.

Signature [Signature] Date 3-11-82
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

It is hereby certified a historic structure.

It does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.

Signature _____ Date _____
Keeper of the National Register

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION--PART I

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name/address of Property: 816 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202name/address of Owner: Sommers & Sommers, 824 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone: (301) 728-1400

prepared by: Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc.

14 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 Telephone: (301) 837-3691

DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

816 Park Avenue exemplifies the elaborate simple, elegant rowhouses found in the Mount Vernon Historic District. Buildings such as it blend with one another to create the significant architectural environment of the district. The building is an Italianate, three story, three bay, masonry double house with a facade of running bond brick and a shed roof.

It has a marble high basement with a belt course beneath the first floor windows. The basement has two bays of one over one double hung windows with delicate wrought iron screens. There is an iron stairway that goes from the sidewalk below the front steps and into the north basement bay. The front steps were probably originally marble and have been replaced with brick and a simple iron railing.

The first level comprises two windows and the entrance. The windows are eight over eight wood sash double hung windows with a wood panel below indicating that the windows were once much larger and have been replaced with shorter windows. The windows have white aluminum storm windows over them, flat arches, and marble sills.

The entrance in the north bay has been modified. It comprises a metal swinging door with a simple wood frame around it, around that is wood paneling and a large projecting cornice with brackets; the cornice has some decorative molding.

The second floor comprises three one over one double hung wood frame sash windows with marble sills, flat arches, and white aluminum storm windows. The third story windows have identical details. All these windows, though, become shorter at each upper story. Above the third floor lintels is a brick fascia composed of brick which does not match that of the lower part of the facade. The cornice is simple and large with decoratively sawn modillions, and dentils. In the attic level are three vents covered with simple iron grates.

Both the north and south walls of the structure are attached to adjacent buildings. The east wall of the main building has a two bay wide, two story shed roofed back building attached to the northern and central bay. The southern bay has six over six double hung wood windows at each story, with flat metal strip lintels, rowlock brick sills, and aluminum storm windows. An iron fire escape extends down the bay.

The back building is constructed of partially stuccoed and painted common bond brick. The south wall is plain brick, and what is visible of the north wall is also plain brick. The first floor of the west wall has an unoriginal paneled wood door in the northern bay. The second and third stories contain one over one wood sash windows with aluminum storm windows, metal strip lintels, and stone sills. An iron fire escape extends down the wall. The coping of the roof line indicates that the roof has been altered.

Behind these structures there is a two story high, three bay wide, four bay long carriage porch built of common bond brick. It has a shed roof. On the first floor, east wall, there is a doorway and three one by one casement windows with wood sills and a flat arch.

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DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Above are six over six double hung wood windows with wood sills and flat arches. There is a corbelled cornice with brick modillions at the eaves. The north and south walls consist of plain brick. The painted west wall comprises two large bays and two stories. The first story consists of two plain wood doors on either side of a large double plain metal door. There is an "I" beam lintel above. In the north bay of the second story there is a six over one double hung wood window with a wood sash and a flat arch. The south bay contains double tongue and groove wood doors with a wood sill and flat arch. Above these openings there is a corbelled cornice.

The interior still retains its original floor plan of rooms organized in a line parallel to a circulation axis, and the rooms have been converted into apartments with a variety of surface finishes applied during recent years.

The front door of the house originally had a large round arched doorway with an architrave surround, now filled in and reduced in size. The doorway from the vestibule to the hallway has a Colonial Revival (not original) pedimented door with fluted pilasters, a broken pediment with modillions, and a central finial. The stairs retain their original open string, bracketed staircase with a heavily molded newel post and turned balusters.

The apartments are very simple with plain surrounds on openings, no baseboard or crown moldings, some original wood floors, and wood paneled doors.

The conversion of this structure into an apartment house is typical of the area which now consists mainly of professional offices and apartments. In general, the building still retains its original character in its materials, scale, plan, proportion, and details. As a result, the building augments the special environment of the Mount Vernon Historic District.

Name/address of Property: 816 Park Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202

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Name/address of Owner: Somers and Somers, 824 Park Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone: (301) 728-1400

Prepared by: Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc.

14 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Telephone: (301) 837-3691

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of 816 Park Avenue lies in its architectural contribution to the environment of the Mount Vernon Historic District.

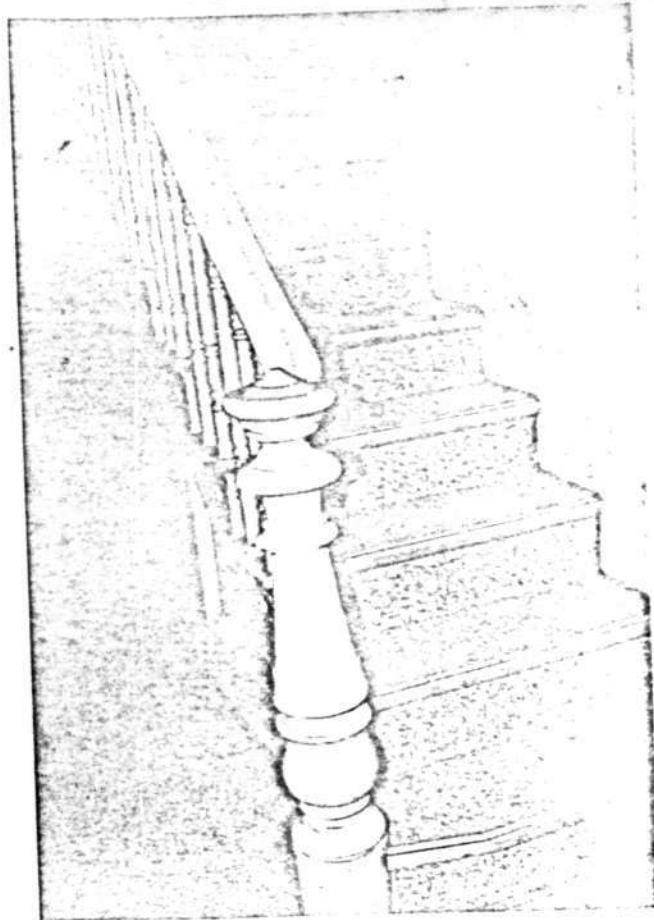
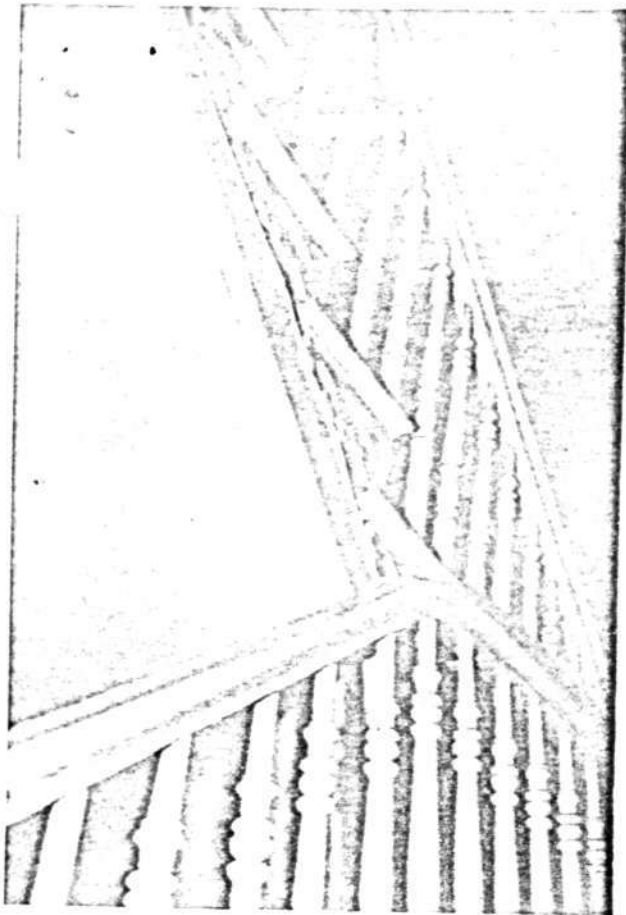
The Mount Vernon Historic District is both a Baltimore City District and, in part, a National Register Historic Landmark District. Mount Vernon was the first Historic District in Baltimore City, designated in 1964 and expanded five times to the current boundaries, which have been certified by the Department of the Interior for purposes of the Historic Preservation Tax Incentives. The ordinance creating the Mount Vernon Historic District also established the Baltimore City Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation to oversee all changes within the District and to recommend other areas and buildings in the City for historic designation. The Historic District and the Commission were outgrowths of the Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Plan, one of the City's earliest efforts to incorporate preservation and renovation of existing structures with new development. The current Historic District now encompasses two Urban Renewal Areas: Mount Vernon and Midtown-Belvedere.

The Mount Vernon Historic District grew from the early 19th century through the early 20th century and retains structures--residential, commercial, and religious--from that time. The area was Baltimore's most fashionable neighborhood and as such includes some of the finest architecture in the City, built for wealthy residents, congregations, and institutions, and designed by architects of local and national renown. The greater portion of the district was once the estate of John Edgar Howard, revolutionary war patriot and statesman. His mansion, Belvidere, was located at what is now the 1000 block of North Calvert Street. The centerpiece of the district is the Washington Monument and Mount Vernon Place. The monument is the first formal monument erected to commemorate George Washington and is one of the finest examples of monumental architecture in the country. It was erected from 1815 to 1829 and designed by Robert Mills, one of the first American born and trained architects in the country. The development of the squares known as Mount Vernon Place and Washington Place, dates from the 1830's, when the land was subdivided by Howard's heirs, who then built some of the first houses. Prior to the construction of the monument and the development of the squares, brick working class houses were built on Tyson Street, Read Street and North Howard Street, the earliest dating from 1810. These buildings still exist, some are residences and others have been converted to antique shops. The houses on Hamilton Street date from 1820 and were designed by Robert Cary Long Sr. the architect of the Peale Museum and Davidge Hall.

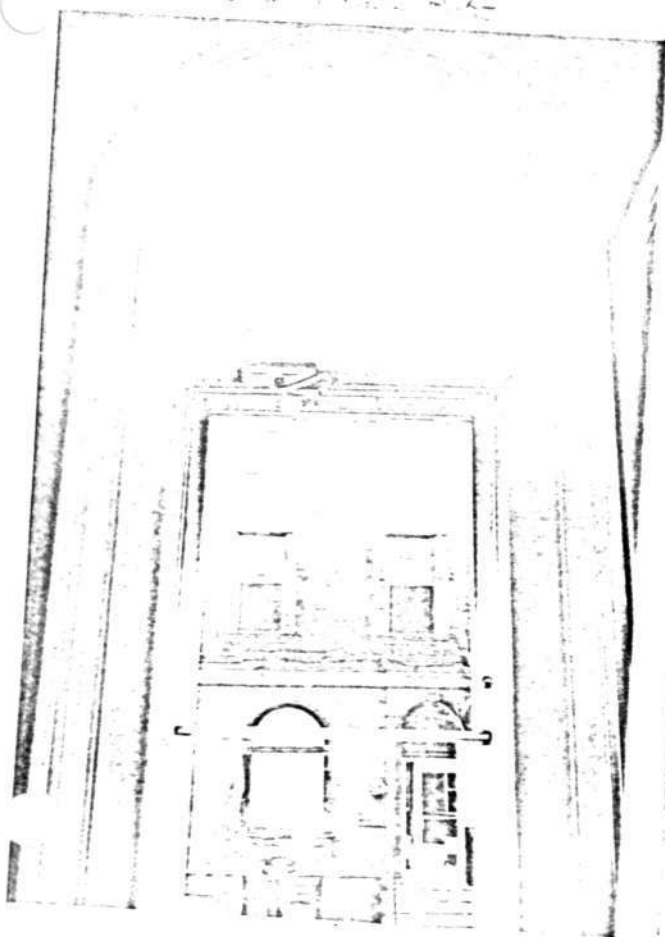
The area which is now the Historic District continued to develop. Baltimore's prominent and wealthy residents moved north to the rural area because the land around the harbor was rapidly becoming industrialized and because the City was flooded with immigrants, who flocked to Baltimore to work in the newly established industries. Construction continued to take place in the 1880's and 1890's after the Howard estate had been sold. By the early 20th century, Mount Royal Avenue and parts of Howard Street had been developed, completing the construction in the district.

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810 Park Ave



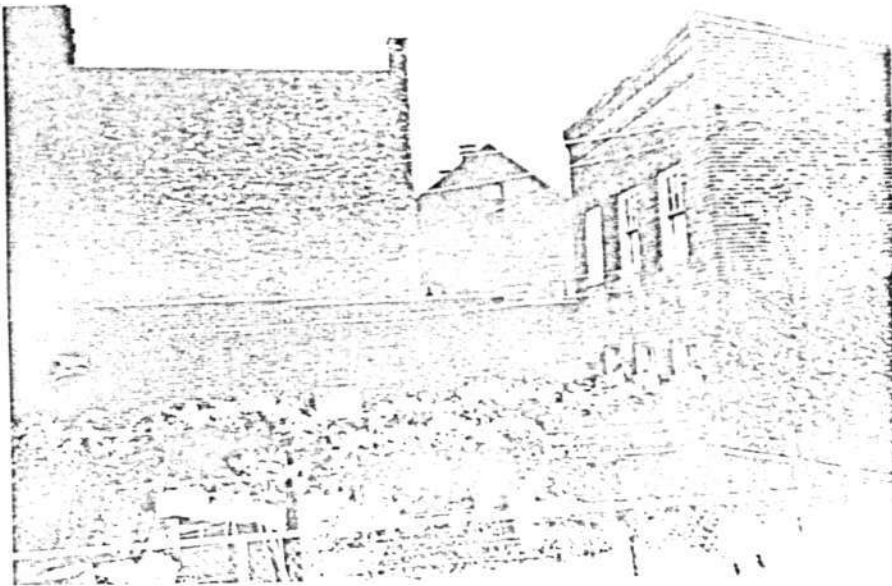
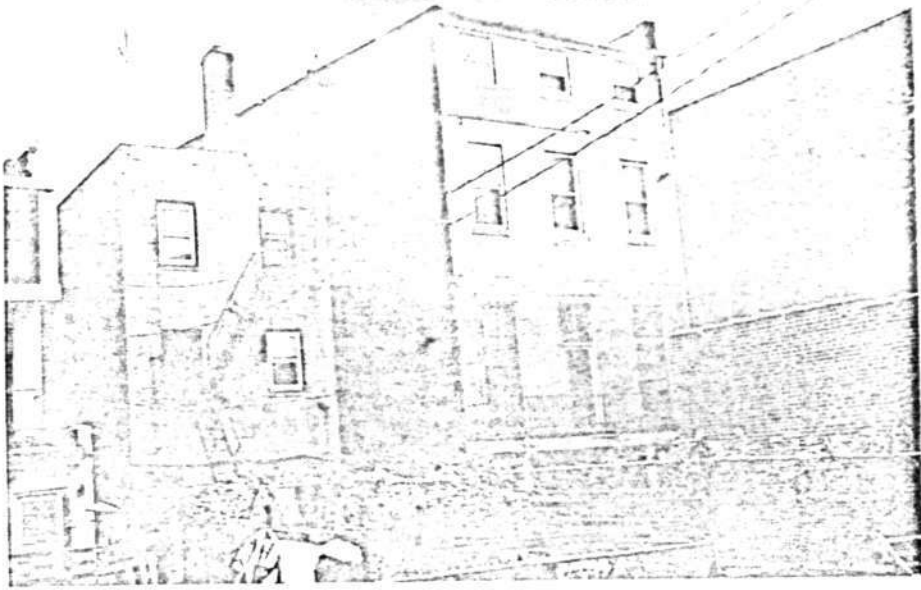
810 Park Ave



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Block 0509, Lot 014

Baltimore City

Baltimore East Quad.

